

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

On Wednesday evening of last week Miss Leach was solemnly set apart for mission work in India. The services were held in Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto, of whose congregation Miss Leach was a member. In a brief address on behalf of the congregation Dr. McTavish said that they rejoiced that one more representative of Central Church was in the Foreign field. They missed such workers among themselves, but was proud to be so numerously represented in this great work.

Miss Leach has from early womanhood devoted herself to this work. Some years ago she presented herself to the Foreign Mission Committee, but was then considered too young to undertake the work. She has since been diligently preparing. She has spent those years in the Bramford Ladies College, singularly enough under the care of the lady who was chosen by the Woman's Foreign Mission Committee—Mrs. A. R. Gregory—to address her on the present occasion; and three years in the Ewart Missionary Training Home in Toronto.

Mrs. Gregory's address to the missionary-elect was earnest and helpful. It was evidently spoken directly out of her own heart, and while the words were singularly well chosen, and the sentiment most fitting, the charm of it lay in its spirit. "Watch and Pray," was the watchword with which the young missionary was sent out. On behalf of the W.F.M.S. Mrs. Gregory presented to Miss Leach a copy of a good Bible Commentary in lieu of the customary Bible, as she had already a good copy of the latter.

The congregation, through Mr. Theron Gibson, a former president of the Missionary Association, presented to Miss Leach a purse of gold, and assured her of their continued interest in her and her work.

Five of the returned missionaries from Honan were present, and were called to the platform. These were Dr. Malcolm, Miss Pyke, Miss McIntosh, Rev. Jonathan and Mrs. Goforth. Their terrible experiences are already well known to the church, but the vivid recital of them given by Mr. Goforth, at the close of the designation services, was followed with deep and painful interest by everyone present. The bandaged head of the missionary, as he told his story, added to its realism.

He took us with him to the compound when the warning to escape first came, and told us how hard it was, for the work was so full of promise just then. A second and more imperative warning came, and then after united prayer, and the urgent entreaty of the native Christians, the resolve was taken to leave the mission. Then we were told of that awful journey southward, when carters refused to go, and were often on the point of deserting them, when the soldiers sent to escort them were the first to turn their weapons against the missionaries. We heard again of that terrible night in the compound, when they barricaded the gates, and waited, fully armed, during the slow hours of darkness, of the prayer of each as the dawn appeared, of the start through the densely packed streets, of the grim company waiting for them outside the walls, of the attack and battle for life, of the agony of seeing wife and little ones struck at by the cowardly brutes, and the singular description of a missionary holding a mob at bay with an empty revolver. He told us of the escape to a small village, a Mohammedan village, where they were kindly cared for, and afterward sent on their way. But no restatement can present, even approximately, the horror of this scene as we heard it from the lips of one who passed through it, and who plainly lived it over again as he told us the story.

Mr. Goforth addressed the congregation at Southside on Sabbath morning last. May we express the hope that, in their eagerness to secure the returned missionaries, our pastors and their congregations will remember that these men and women have been through a most trying ordeal, and that an absolute rest is imperatively demanded. The Foreign Mission Committee should insist that not one of those who have passed through these experiences should address a meeting for at least three months. Protect them from the appeals that, we presume, are already pouring in upon them.

Knox College has again opened her residence doors, and the deserted halls are filling again. The session opens early this year, on 4th of October. Rev. Professor MacLaren will deliver the opening lecture.

Northern Ontario.

Rev. Dr. Findlay of Barrie will preach in the Presbyterian church, Emsdale, next Sunday and dispense the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Rev. B. B. Williams, of Guelph, is filling the North Bay pulpit during the temporary absence of the pastor. Mr. Williams is an exceptionally good preacher.

The Presbytery of North Bay will meet in Emsdale Presbyterian church Wednesday, the 19th inst., at 10 o'clock a.m. and on Tuesday the 18th their will be a meeting of delegates of Young People's Society within the bounds of the Presbytery.

At Parry Sound the Corner Stone of a fine brick edifice was recently laid by the Premier, Hon. Geo. Ross, in the presence of a large gathering of people. On the platform were, in addition to the Premier, the local ministers and many prominent citizens. The proceedings were opened by the choir and others singing "All People that on Earth do dwell," after which the Pastor read a portion of scripture and called upon Rev. Mr. Harper, pastor of the Methodist church, who lead in a fervent prayer invoking God's blessing on the new church and success to the congregation which would worship in it.

Captain David MacFarlane was then called upon and presented the Premier with a handsome silver trowel for the purpose of laying the corner stone which the latter did in a workmanlike manner, after which he pronounced the stone "well and truly laid" and expressed the hope that the building of which it was to be the corner might be completed without accident to any of the workmen employed and that the church would be a beacon star to point many to Christ. In response to an invitation by the pastor, Rev. Mr. Childerhose, a number responded and laid contributions on the stone to the amount of \$399.00. The new church is being built on the site of the old one, and is in a good position. The plans indicate a handsome structure, and will contain all modern improvements. Mr. Childerhose, who is doing a good work, not only in Parry Sound, but throughout the district, is to be congratulated on the improved outlook for himself and congregation, that this forward movement means.

Winnipeg and West.

Rev. Dr. Duval is again occupying his own pulpit, after his holiday in British Columbia.

On their way from Vancouver to Toronto, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, the returned missionaries from China, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. H. Morden, of 27 Carlton street, Winnipeg.

Rev. Prof. Murison, who has been lecturing in connection with the Summer Session of Manitoba College, has returned to Toronto. His work has been greatly appreciated, both by the faculty and students.

Vancouver, B.C., World: Rev. John Pringle, of Atlin, returned north on the Danube to-day. Mr. Pringle has been absent from his charge for two months, and in all delivered 57 addresses on his work in Winnipeg and the east. He was very successful in securing financial aid for the work of the Presbyterian church which he is carrying on in the north.

The Vancouver World of a recent date has the following: The numerous friends of Rev. P. McFarlane McLeod, for some time pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Victoria, and for years a leading divine in Toronto and Stratford Ont., who left for London, England, five years ago, where he has ministered since to a very influential congregation in that city, will be grieved to learn that he is likely to become totally blind. Recent operations on the rev. gentleman's eyes have resulted unsatisfactorily, and as a final experiment he is now lying in darkened apartments, with the hope of affecting a cure. Advices, however, from the family to relatives in Victoria, hold out but little promise that his eyesight will ever be restored.

An Englishman who boasted he knew broad Scotch thoroughly was asked the other evening to translate the following, which a young lady in a boat at Rothesay cried to father at the oars—"Pu', pa, pu'; can ye no pu', pa?" He declared it was Chinese.

The Rev. Dr. Orr, the well-known Edinburgh professor, is paying a visit to London, and for the next two Sundays will fill Dr. Monro Gibson's pulpit at St. John's Wood Presbyterian Church.

Western Ontario.

The Rev. J. A. McKenzie will preach his inaugural in Kirkwall church on Sunday.

Rev. Donald Guthrie, D.D., has returned to Guelph after a visit to friends in Montreal.

Rev. Mr. McIntosh, Elora, returned from his holidays, and took up his regular work last Sabbath.

Rev. R. W. Ross, pastor of Knox Church Guelph, has returned from his two weeks holidays up North.

Rev. Jas. Dow, wife and child, of Gravenhurst, are visiting at the old home, Mr. P. Dow's, Nichol, near Fergus.

Rev. M. L. and Mrs. Leitch and family, Stratford, who spent their vacation in Strathroy and vicinity, have returned home.

Rev. Jas. Hamilton, of Londesborough, and Rev. A. W. Hamilton of Winterbourne, exchanged pulpits for the last couple of Sundays.

The lawn social at Knox Manse, Elora, was most decided success. The entertainment was very pleasing, and the financial result satisfactory.

Rev. Mr. Jansen preached at the preparatory services, on Friday evening in Wentworth Church, Hamilton. Seven new members joined the church.

The sermon by the Rev. Wm. Robertson, at Duff's church, Morrison, on Sabbath for the A.O.U.W., was well received and the attendance was very good.

The congregation of the North Westminster Presbyterian Church has extended a call to Dr. McCrae, of Collingwood, to succeed Rev. E. H. Sawers as pastor.

Rev. Norman T. C. McKay, of Toronto, preached last Sabbath morning and evening, at Bradford, also in the Scotch Settlement in the afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Anniversary services will be conducted in the Komka Church, by Rev. Thomas Wilson, London, on the 16th inst. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and 7 o'clock in the evening.

Revs. H. A. Macpherson and Jos. M. Hagar, Acton, exchanged pulpits last Sunday evening. Both congregations, says the Free Press, were favored with excellent sermons, and appreciated this spirit of reciprocity.

The committee appointed by the London Presbytery, consisting of Revs. R. Stewart, J. Sturges, D. Kelso, D. R. Drummond and J. Currie, visited the charge at Lynn's, Southwood, on Tuesday, and organized it into a congregation. An interim session was appointed.

Rev. A. Wishart, of Garafraxa, was inducted to the Presbyterian Church, Beeton. He is a young man of great promise, and so far in college, and in preaching has done very well indeed. We wish him much success, as he deserves, for he is faithful, able and energetic.

Rev. D. B. Marsh, Ph. Sc. D., formerly of Eramosa, and now of Hamilton, was married on Sept. 5, at Walton, Huron Co., to Miss Annie Gardiner. The wedding was quite an event in the community. Mrs. and Mrs. Marsh are spending their honeymoon in New York State. Miss Gardiner was quite an active worker in the Presbyterian church there.

A very sad event took place on Thursday night of last week at the manse, Motherwell. Mrs. Watt, who was a guest there, was taken suddenly ill about 10 o'clock in the evening, and the doctor, on his arrival, found her suffering from a hemorrhage on the brain and quite unconscious. She never regained consciousness and died at one o'clock in the morning. The body was removed to Hamilton, where it was met by relatives and friends of the deceased, and interred beside the body of her husband, who was buried in that cemetery thirty-seven years ago. Mrs. Watt was a sister of the late Dr. King, of Manitoba college, and with whom she lived until death removed him a few years ago. She then came east and resided with her only son in Toronto until quite recently. Her sudden death came as a shock to the entire community. The presence of Principal Caven of Knox, Sir Thomas Taylor, and other distinguished friends in Toronto, testified in some degree the esteem and respect in which deceased was held.

The Committee charged with the nomination of a minister for the Barton Church, Glasgow, in succession to Rev. Dr. Lang, now Principal of Aberdeen University, will recommend that the charge should be offered to Rev. Thomas Martin, B.D., of St. Mary's, Edinburgh.